

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 11-12, 22-23, 33-34, 36, and 40 have been amended. New claim 41 has been added. Claims 1-38 and 40-41 are pending and under consideration.

Applicants have timely filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) along with this Amendment, including the filing fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the finality of any Office action and enter this Amendment for consideration under 37 CFR 1.114.

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Office Action, at pages 2-9, claims 1-4, 10, 12-15, 21, 23-26, 32, 34-38, and 40 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okishima (U.S. Patent No. 5,659,333) in view of Kurashina (U.S. Patent No. 6,297,836) and further in view of Kiyoshi (JP 2000-172403).

The Examiner concedes that Okishima and Kurashina do not disclose providing at least one of a forehead line in a direction of manipulation and a forehead column in a direction of manipulation within the predetermined display area wherein the display attributes of the plurality of elements structuring the information are not changed. Therefore, Okishima and Kurashina do not discuss or suggest "providing at least one of a leading line in a direction of the manipulation and a leading column in a direction of the manipulation within the predetermined display area in which the display attributes of the plurality of elements structuring the information are not changed," as recited in amended claim 1. The Examiner attempts to make up for this deficiency with Kiyoshi. However, Kiyoshi does not discuss or suggest "providing at least one of a leading line in a direction of the manipulation and a leading column in a direction of the manipulation within the predetermined display area in which the display attributes of the plurality of elements structuring the information are not changed," as recited in amended claim 1.

- In other words, the invention of claim 1 provides for a leading line and/or a leading column, which is/are the leading line and/or leading column in the direction of manipulation of the display area, to remain unchanged during the manipulation. In this manner, the invention of claim 1 provides for better recognition of elements newly entering the display area when scrolling occurs in any given direction. Kiyoshi, as relied on by the Examiner, merely shows that a portion of a display area may retain a full size during a scrolling process.

However, Kiyoshi does not provide for retaining the display attributes of a leading line and/or a leading column in the direction of scrolling. For example, Fig. 16 of Kiyoshi, as relied on by the Examiner, shows a display area 3 at the center of the screen that is displayed at full size. However, display areas 1 and 2, shown going off of the screen, and display areas 4 and 5, newly appearing on the screen, are actually scaled down. Thus, Kiyoshi actually teaches away from the invention of claim 1.

Therefore, none of Okishima, Kurashina, or Kiyoshi, or any combination thereof, discuss or suggest all of the features of amended claim 1. so that claim 1 patentably distinguishes over Okishima, Kurashina, and Kiyoshi. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-4, 10, 38, and 40 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1, and include all the features of claim 1, plus additional features that are not discussed or suggested by the references relied upon. Therefore, claims 2-4, 10, 38, and 40 patentably distinguish over the references relied upon for at least the reasons noted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of these § 103(a) rejections is respectfully requested.

None of Okishima, Kurashina, or Kiyoshi, or any combination thereof, discuss or suggest “at least one of a leading line in a direction of the manipulation and a leading column in a direction of the manipulation within the predetermined display area in which the display attributes of the plurality of elements structuring the information are not changed,” as recited in amended claim 12. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 13-15 and 21 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 12, and include all the features of claim 12, plus additional features that are not discussed or suggested by the references relied upon. Therefore, claims 13-15 and 21 patentably distinguish over the references relied upon for at least the reasons noted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of these § 103(a) rejections is respectfully requested.

None of Okishima, Kurashina, or Kiyoshi, or any combination thereof, discuss or suggest “providing at least one of a leading line in a direction of the manipulation and leading column in a direction of the manipulation within the predetermined display area in which the display attributes of the plurality of elements structuring the information are not changed,” as recited in amended claim 23. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 24-26 and 32 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 23, and include all the features of claim 23, plus additional features that are not discussed or suggested by the references relied upon. Therefore, claims 24-26 and 32 patentably distinguish over the references relied upon for at least the reasons noted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of these § 103(a) rejections is respectfully requested.

None of Okishima, Kurashina, or Kiyoshi, or any combination thereof, discuss or suggest “providing at least one of a leading line in a direction of the manipulation or leading column in a direction of the manipulation within the predetermined display area wherein the attribute of the text is not changed,” as recited in amended claim 34. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 35 depends directly from claim 34, and includes all the features of claim 34, plus additional features that are not discussed or suggested by the references relied upon. Therefore, claim 35 patentably distinguishes over the references relied upon for at least the reasons noted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejections is respectfully requested.

None of Okishima, Kurashina, or Kiyoshi, or any combination thereof, discuss or suggest “providing at least one of a leading line in a scrolling direction or leading column in a scrolling direction within the display in which the display attributes of characters structuring the document are not changed,” as recited in amended claim 36. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 37 depends directly from claim 36, and includes all the features of claim 36, plus additional features that are not discussed or suggested by the references relied upon. Therefore, claim 37 patentably distinguishes over the references relied upon for at least the reasons noted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejections is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, at pages 9-11, claims 11, 22, and 33 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bricklin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,848,187) in further view of Kiyoshi.

The Examiner concedes that Bricklin et al. does not disclose providing at least one of a forehead line and a forehead column within the predetermined display area wherein the display attributes of the plurality of elements structuring the information are not changed. Therefore, Bricklin et al. does not discuss or suggest “providing at least one of a leading line or leading column within the predetermined display area in which the attribute of the information is not

changed,” as recited in amended claim 11. The Examiner attempts to make up for this deficiency with Kiyoshi. However, as discussed above, Kiyoshi does not discuss or suggest “providing at least one of a leading line or leading column within the predetermined display area in which the attribute of the information is not changed,” as recited in amended claim 11. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

Bricklin et al. and Kiyoshi do not discuss or suggest “at least one of a leading line and a leading column within the predetermined display area in which the attribute of the plurality of elements structuring the information is not changed,” as recited in amended claim 22. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

Bricklin et al. and Kiyoshi do not discuss or suggest “providing at least one of a leading line and leading column within the predetermined display area in which the attribute of the plurality of elements structuring the information is not changed,” as recited in amended claim 33. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, at pages 11-14, claims 5-8, 16-19, and 27-30 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okishima, Kurashina, and Kiyoshi and further in view of Hallberg (U.S. Patent No. 6,297,836).

As discussed above, independent claims 1, 12, and 23 each patentably distinguish over Okishima, Kurashina, and Kiyoshi. Hallberg fails to make up for these deficiencies. Claims 5-8, 16-19, and 27-30 depend either directly or indirectly from claims 1, 12, and 23, respectively, and include all the features of claims 1, 12, and 23, respectively, plus additional features that are not discussed or suggested by the references relied upon. Therefore, claims 5-8, 16-19, and 27-30 patentably distinguish over the references relied upon for at least the reasons noted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of these § 103(a) rejections is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, at page 14, claims 9, 20, and 31 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okishima, Kurashina, and Kiyoshi and further in view of Goto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,434,591).

As discussed above, independent claims 1, 12, and 23 each patentably distinguish over Okishima, Kurashina, and Kiyoshi. Goto et al. fails to make up for these deficiencies. Claims 9, 20, and 31 depend either directly or indirectly from claims 1, 12, and 23, respectively, and include all the features of claims 1, 12, and 23, respectively, plus additional features that are not discussed or suggested by the references relied upon. Therefore, claims 9, 20, and 31 patentably distinguish over the references relied upon for at least the reasons noted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of these § 103(a) rejections is respectfully requested.

II. New Claim

New claim 41 has been added. None of the cited prior art discusses or suggests:

providing at least one of a first line in a direction of the manipulation and a first column in a direction of the manipulation within the predetermined display area in which the display attributes of the plurality of elements structuring the information are not changed,

as recited in claim 41. Thus, it is submitted that claim 41 is in a condition suitable for allowance.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

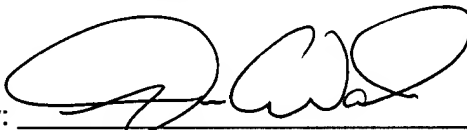
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 10-31-07

By: 
Aaron C. Walker
Registration No. 59,921

1201 New York Avenue, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501